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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED POBOX 655474, M/S 3999 DALLAS, TX 75265

EXAMINER

PAPER NUMBER

PHAN, TRONG Q

ART UNIT

DATE MAILED: 01-03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Examiner TRONG PHAN 2818 The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).								
## Examiner TRONS PHAN 2818 ## AFORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. ## Examiner TRONS PHAN 2818 ## AFORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. ## Examiner Trons Phan 2818 ## THE APPRICATION OF THIS COMMUNICATION. ## Examiner Trons Phan 2818 ## THE APPRICATION OF THIS COMMUNICATION. ## Examiner Trons Phan 2818 ## THE APPRICATION OF THIS COMMUNICATION. ## Examiner Trons Phan 2818 ## The Provided In only precified above, the mainmain statistics principle will apply and will expert SNX (8) MONTH'S from the mailing date of this communication of the provided principle in pro	_		Application No.	licant(s)	at /			
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The finality of claims 1-2 as set forth in the office action of June 4, 2002 has been withdrawn in view of Portacci, 6,172,901, does not clearly teach that the current flowing through each of the PMOS drive transistors is less than the current flowing each of the NMOS access transistors as recited in claims 1-2.

However, in view of the newly discovered reference of Leung et al., 6,442,060, a new non-final office action has been set forth as below:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

It is not understood what are the same voltages as described in lines 22-24, page 3, lines 32-33, page 5 and lines 1-3, page 6 of the specification. This feature is not seen in any of the drawings of the present invention.

- 3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
 The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
- 4. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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No antecedent basis for "the same voltages" (line 21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Leung et al., 6,442,060.

Leung et al., 6,442,060, discloses in Fig. 5 a four-transistor memory cell comprising:

NMOS access transistors 501-502:

PMOS drive transistors 503-504;

word line WL;

bit lines BL and BL#;

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wherein: the strength of the NMOS access transistors 501-502 are significantly higher than the strength of the PMOS drive transistors 503-504 (see lines 49-63, column 4). As a result, the current flowing through each of NMOS access transistors is greater than the current flowing through each of the PMOS drive transistors (see lines 19-39, column 2).

regarding claim 2, since the drain of each of the NMOS access transistors 501-502 is connected to the corresponding drain of each of PMOS drive transistors 503-504, therefore, during a read operation, the voltage applied to the word line WL is less than the supply voltage Vcc by a threshold voltage of the PMOS transistor.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TRONG PHAN whose telephone number is (703) 308-4870. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (703) 308-4910. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-4021 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

TRONG PHAN PRIMARY EXAMINER

December 23, 2002